



MUNITIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Project

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MBIIP

OSD Declassification Instructions on File

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE


Attn: Mr. Max Millikan, AD/RR

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Intelligence for Export Control Purposes

1. The Advisory Committee on Export Policy is reviewing the strategic rating of a number of products currently on export control lists for security reasons. Steel rails, railway equipment, mining equipment, road-building equipment, aluminum, and pressure top equipment for blast furnaces are presently before the Committee, and others will soon be considered. The rating of some of these products may be appealed to the National Security Council.

2. The CIA member of ACEP has participated in recent inter-agency discussions of export control policy and knows that some member-agencies are proposing that many items be downgraded to levels accepted at COCOM discussions. It becomes, therefore, more essential to develop evaluations of the importance of the considered items to Soviet Bloc countries. The Department of Defense is of the opinion that the above-mentioned items are highly strategic and should retain their 1-A rating so as to effectively deny them to the Soviet Bloc. However, other agencies have developed detailed statements alleging that these items are no longer in critical short supply in the Soviet Bloc, and that continued embargo would not deny advanced technological information to, or result in a critical deficiency in, the war potential of the Soviet Bloc.

3. The Department of Defense files include many reports on the strategic value to the Soviet Bloc of a variety of products, and from these has formulated the view that the items listed above should be retained on U. S. List 1-A, even though not agreed to by COCOM countries. If your agency were to evaluate these items independently, and make the results available within a week or ten days, the work of the ACEP would be greatly assisted. It would also be extremely helpful if during this period of re-examination of security ratings, your Agency could make staff available for evaluation of products as they come up for consideration. Defense staff members are available at all times for consultation on this matter.


W. B. THORPE
Captain, U.S.N.

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